



# UNDERCURRENTS

Newsletter of the Bluegrass Dive Club / [www.bluegrassdiveclub.com](http://www.bluegrassdiveclub.com)

September 2025

Volume 55, Number 8

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## Club Meeting

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**Date:** Tuesday, September 9

**Time:** 7:30-PM (business)  
Social at 7:00

**Location:** Roosters

**Program:** Video a/o Pics from Dan's trip

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## President's Message

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*By Kathryn Bowers*



August was a very busy month! The dive club posted our first trip using the new We Travel software. We have a live aboard trip to Turks and Caicos 22 - 29 August 2026. After a little bit of soul-searching, Alex and I decided to sign up for the trip.

It will be interesting, I have never been on a liver board and really wasn't sure that was my idea of a fun dive trip but in the end, I decided, why not try something new, I don't have to dive any more than I want to dive and I really don't mind just sitting on a boat. Who knows this may end up being my favorite type of trip yet. If nothing else, packing should be fairly stress-free.

I'm looking forward to the trip next year.

On the 23rd, we hosted our annual dive club pick roast on Butch and Priscilla Mellott's houseboat on Lake Herrington. We had fabulous weather and a really good turnout!

Butch very graciously offered to cook the meat for us. He made some wonderful ribs, as well as pulled pork and chicken. As usual, we had lots and lots of sides and desserts.

Unfortunately, we had so much fun. We forgot to take very many pictures. Mark your calendar for next year so you don't miss out on this great time to get to know all your friends in the Bluegrass Dive Club.

Yesterday we attended the 90th (surprise) birthday party of long-time club member Charlie Denham. The party was held at John Schumer's house on Lakeside Drive. It was a beautiful location, and we had a perfect day! I even think Charlie was a little surprised. 🚩

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## The Editor's Notes

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*By John Geddes*



The pics are from Kris Harn at Charlie's Birthday Party and Thanks to John Schimmoeller and Terri Berish for hosting. Thanks to Alex for the pic from the Pig Roast, so much fun he only took 1 pic. 🚩

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## Vice President Report

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By Kris Harn



Hope to see you at the September meeting on the 9<sup>th</sup>. 🚩

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## Trip Director Report

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By Natasha Bowers



I am so pleased to hear that everyone who went to the Caymans had such a great time! People had such a great time that we already have a request for a return trip to the islands in two years. Reminder that you can always submit your dive location request with a suggested travel date through the website.

Please check the club website to see details about Turks and Caicos in August of 2026. We are still on the hunt for a new travel agency to work with and hopefully some of our Board members will be able to attend DEMA this year to try and scope us out a new business partner so keep your flippers crossed they have success! 🚩



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## Secretary's Report

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By Amy Hiatt



Quick Recap

The board meeting included operational updates, financial matters, and travel planning. Key discussions focused on the adoption of We Travel as the new trip management platform, Cozumel room allocations, Turks and Caicos trip planning, and future destinations such as Indonesia. The group also reviewed officer elections scheduled for November, membership transitions, and recent events, including the pig roast fundraiser on August 26th and the upcoming DEMA show in Orlando in November.

Key Highlights Reviewed We Travel platform for payment processing and trip management. Decision pending on adoption.

Cozumel trip scheduled for October 25 – November 1. Room allocations and payments due by September 8th.

Turks and Caicos live-aboard trip confirmed as program feature for the September 9th meeting.

Financial review showed \$30,059.22 balance; rebate checks recovered; address update with Chase pending.

Exploring potential partnership with Blue Mind Oceanic for future trip planning.

Officer elections set for November, with slate due for approval by October. Recruitment for new board members continues.

Planning for DEMA show (Nov 11–14 in Orlando) with session schedules under review. 🚩

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## From the Treasurer

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By Dan Miller



Student with ID, New Diver, First Year **\$10.00**

**2025 Membership Renewal** **\$20.00**

- Student with ID
- Single & Family (1 diver)
- Family (non divers)
- Family (2 or more divers)

**Renewal:** Please send payment to the address listed below, please make sure there is a correct indication of your mailing address, phone number and it is very important to indicate an email address.

**Contact / Mail to:** Bluegrass Dive Club c/o  
Dan Miller 824 Gunpower Drive  
Lexington, KY 40509

**New Members:** Visit the website to fill out an on-line form or to access a Microsoft Word printable form. [CLICK HERE](#). 🚩



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## Webmaster

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By Alex Fassas



Tales from the Watery We

### *Changing Seasons and Plans*

Kathryn and I completed another trip around the sun and celebrated our birthdays. The dry end to summer will likely make for a short show of fall that is just around the corner. Kathryn and I are making plans to attend the Dive Equipment Manufacturers Association show in Orlando, Florida 11/11-14/2025. If anyone else is interested in attending reach out to the [webmaster@bluegrassdiveclub.com](mailto:webmaster@bluegrassdiveclub.com) or at (859) 582-1600. Our reason for attending is to get to meet some dive travel professionals and help establish some trip planning relationships.

### *Future Trip Pages and Registration*

Kathryn Bowers and I have signed up for the Turks & Caicos Aggressor II liveaboard dive trip from 8/22/2026 until 8/29/2026. The trip is open for registration and there are 14 spots still available on this boat. You can find the trip details and register at this link:

### [2026 Turks & Caicos Aggressor II Liveaboard](#)

September 9<sup>th</sup> is the absolute cutoff for signups for the club trip to the Iberostar Waves Resort in Cozumel, Mexico from 10/25/2025 until 11/1/2025. There are 8 people on this trip who are going to have a fantastic time with Dressel Divers. Pack your bags and make it happen. YOLO

### *Club Pig Roast Recap – Hosted by Priscilla and Butch Mellott*

19 club members gathered on Saturday, August 23, 2025, for our annual Pig Roast. Our hosts were Priscilla and Butch Mellott graciously hosted the group aboard their houseboat at the Kamp Kennedy Marina on Herrington Lake. The directions were simple, get to the marina and ask for directions to

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## Webmaster Cont.

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Butch's houseboat; every soul at Kamp Kennedy knew the way.



Butch had prepared his famous ribs and pork shoulder for the meats. The side dishes, desserts and beverages were plentiful. There were a few stories told or retold and probably a few lies as well. And a tequila fairy that kept coming by.

I know that I enjoyed our hosts' hospitality and the fellowship of friends. Such a good time visiting that it was not until most people left that we realized that there were no pictures taken. We took one picture to prove the pig roast happened. 🚩



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## Safety Information Director

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By Bart Bertetto



### **I Got a Taste of Diving Safety from This SAFETY BITE**

Note from Bart: On my recent boat dives in Costa Rica, we had a good size group and the dive master really emphasized the Buddy Check. He recounted how he had a diver the previous day who hit the water unprepared and a panic ensued. He made sure everyone had a buddy and paired up the single divers. This is a repeat and refresher article that I wrote some time ago. Don't think you are immune to complacency. A good buddy check is the best way to ensure you are ready and prepared to go in. Practice it. 🚩

## **Bluegrass Dive Club 2025 Calendar**

### September

9, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting  
23, Tuesday E.C. Meeting

### October

14, Tuesday Dive Club Meeting  
**25 -11/1 Cozumel Trip**  
28, Tuesday E.C. Meeting

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### **2025 BGDC Officer's**

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Kathryn Bowers, President	859 619-0166
Kris Harn, Vice President	859 333-6911
Amy Hiatt, Secretary	303 815-8375
Dan Miller, Treasurer	859 948-5133
Natasha Bowers, Trip Director	651 786-9574
Bart Bertetto, Safety Info Dir.	502 299-3656
Alex Fassas, Webmaster	859 582-1600
John Geddes, Newsletter	859 608-0682